



No. 258

THE SECRET OF THE TALKING BIRD



A FOLKTALE FROM KARNATAKA

There are many who love to tell a story and many more who love to listen to one. And each time a story is retold, it acquires a new colour and a fresh dimension.

The grandmother who heard a story as a little girl from her grandmother, tells the same story to her grandchild but with a few embellishments of her own. The traveller from a distant land who happens to hear a story in the course of his travels, later tells it to his own people, modifying it to make it more dramatic or more acceptable to his audience. That is how stories which had first been told centuries ago have been kept alive and why we find recurring themes in the tales told in different regions separated by hundreds of miles.

This Amar Chitra Katha retells the folktale MATANADUVA GILI MATTU BEDARA HUDUGA, originally narrated in Kannada by Dr. Chandrashekar Kambar

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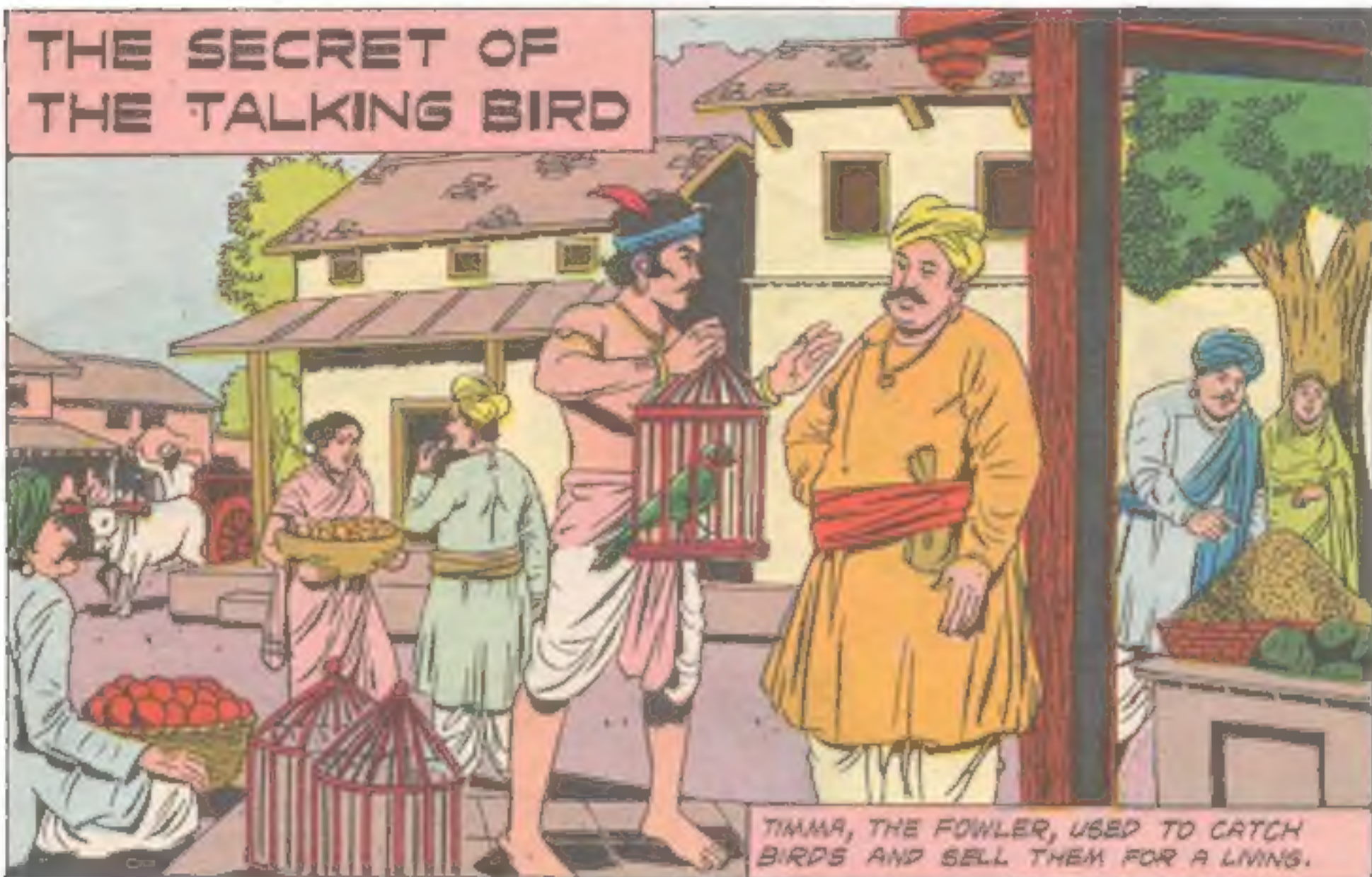
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Published by H.G. Mirchandani for India Book House Education Trust, Ravi Mansion, 29 Nathalal Parekh Marg, Bombay 400 039 and printed by him at IBH Printers, Marol Naka, Mathuradas Vissanji Road, Andheri (East), Bombay-400 059.

Editor : Anant Pai Script: Subba Rao Artworks : Dilip Kadam

THE SECRET OF THE TALKING BIRD



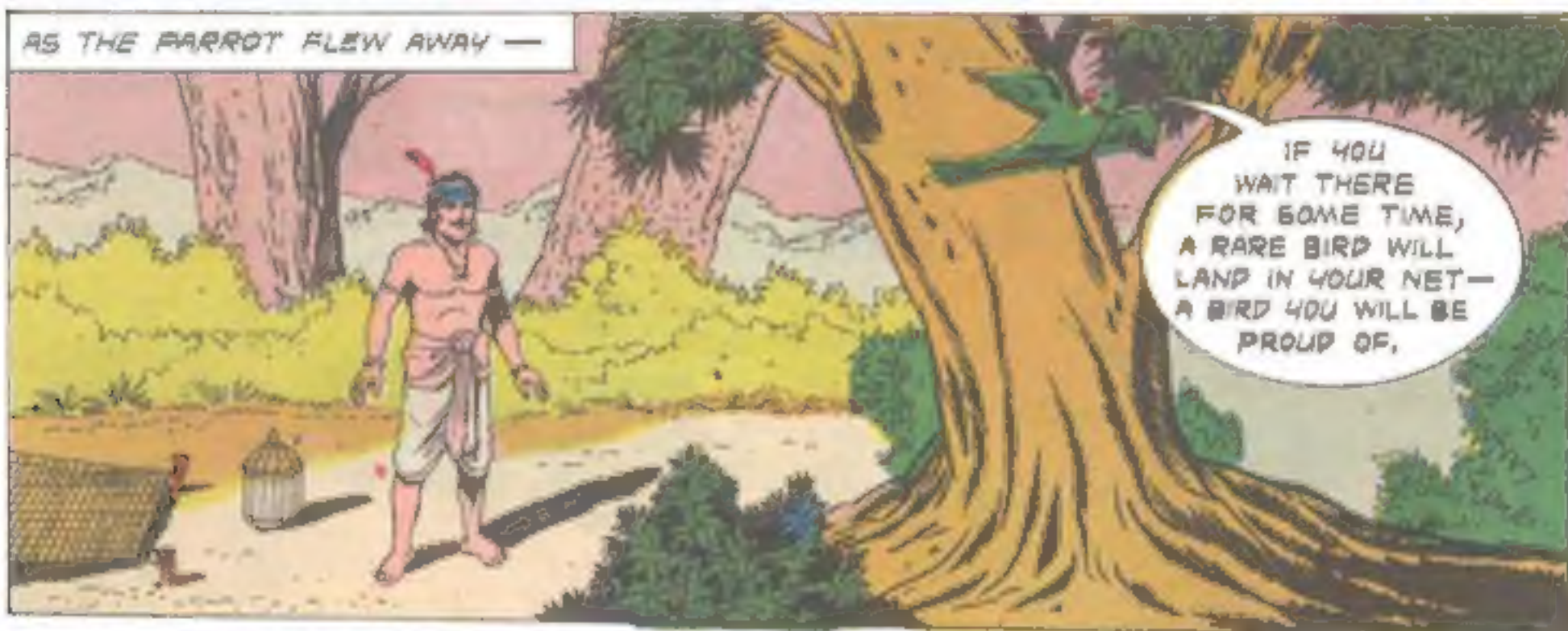
TIMMA, THE FOWLER, USED TO CATCH BIRDS AND SELL THEM FOR A LIVING.

ONE EVENING—



WHEN TIMMA WAS ABOUT TO TRANSFER THE PARROT TO THE CAGE—









MY MINISTER
WILL GIVE YOU
A BAG OF GOLD
COINS,

WHAT!
A BAG OF
GOLD COINS
FOR A
PARROT?

AND YOU MAY VISIT THE
PALACE ANY TIME
YOU LIKE.

THANK YOU,
MAHARAJ.

TIMMA BEGAN TO VISIT THE PALACE
FREQUENTLY.

HERE HE COMES AGAIN—
THE GREAT TEACHER,
HMMPH!

SOON TIMMA HAD GOOD NEWS FOR THE KING.

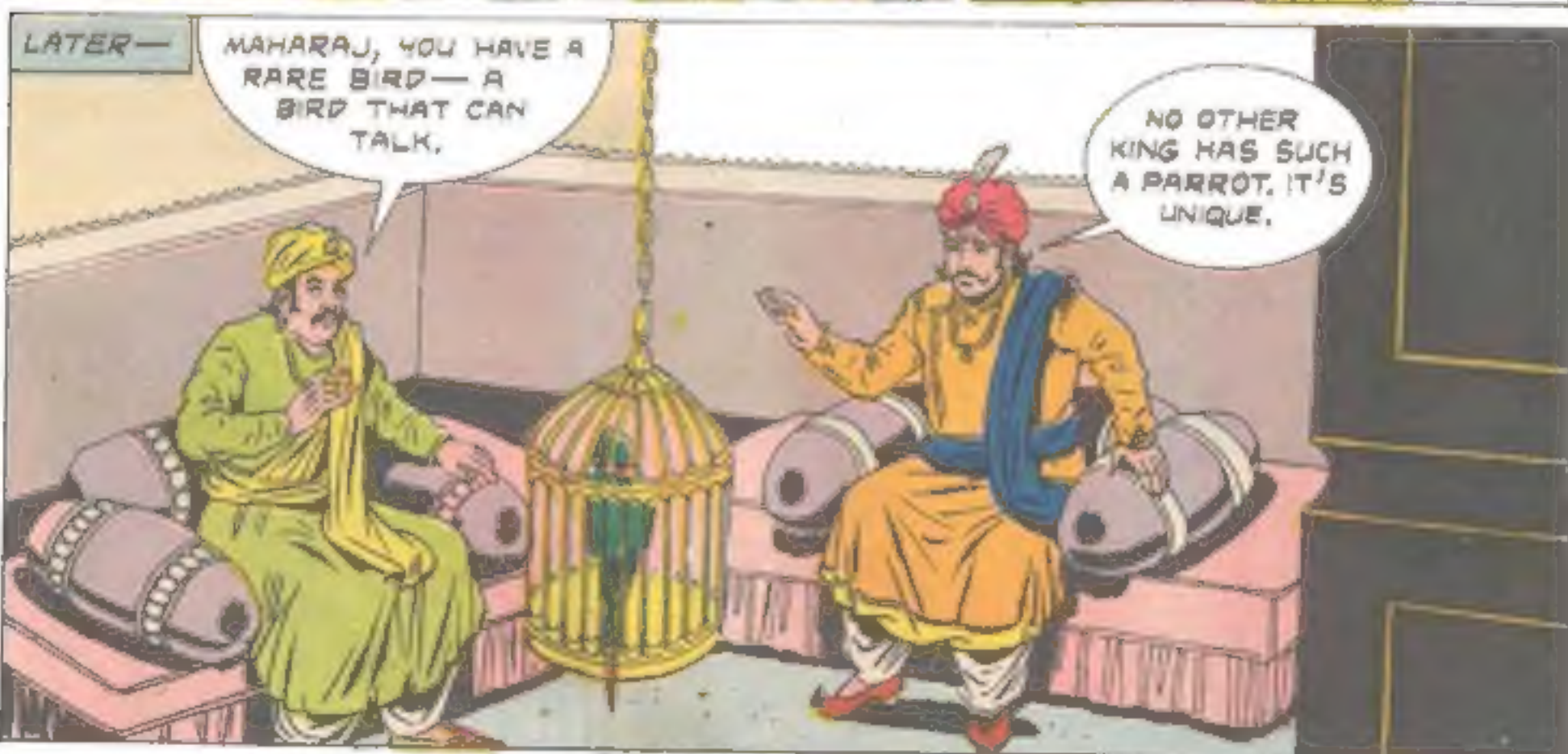
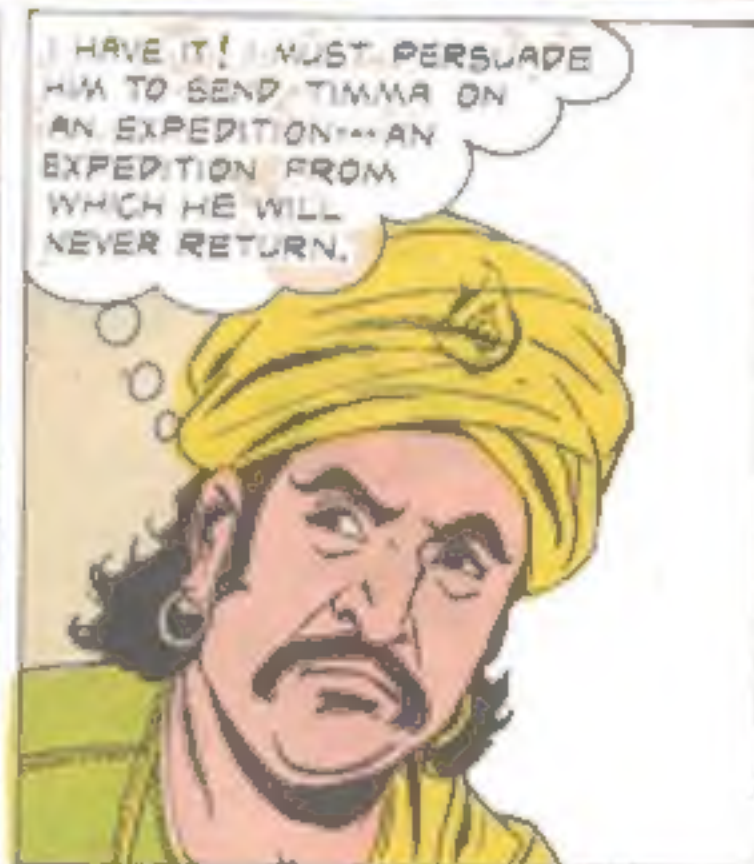
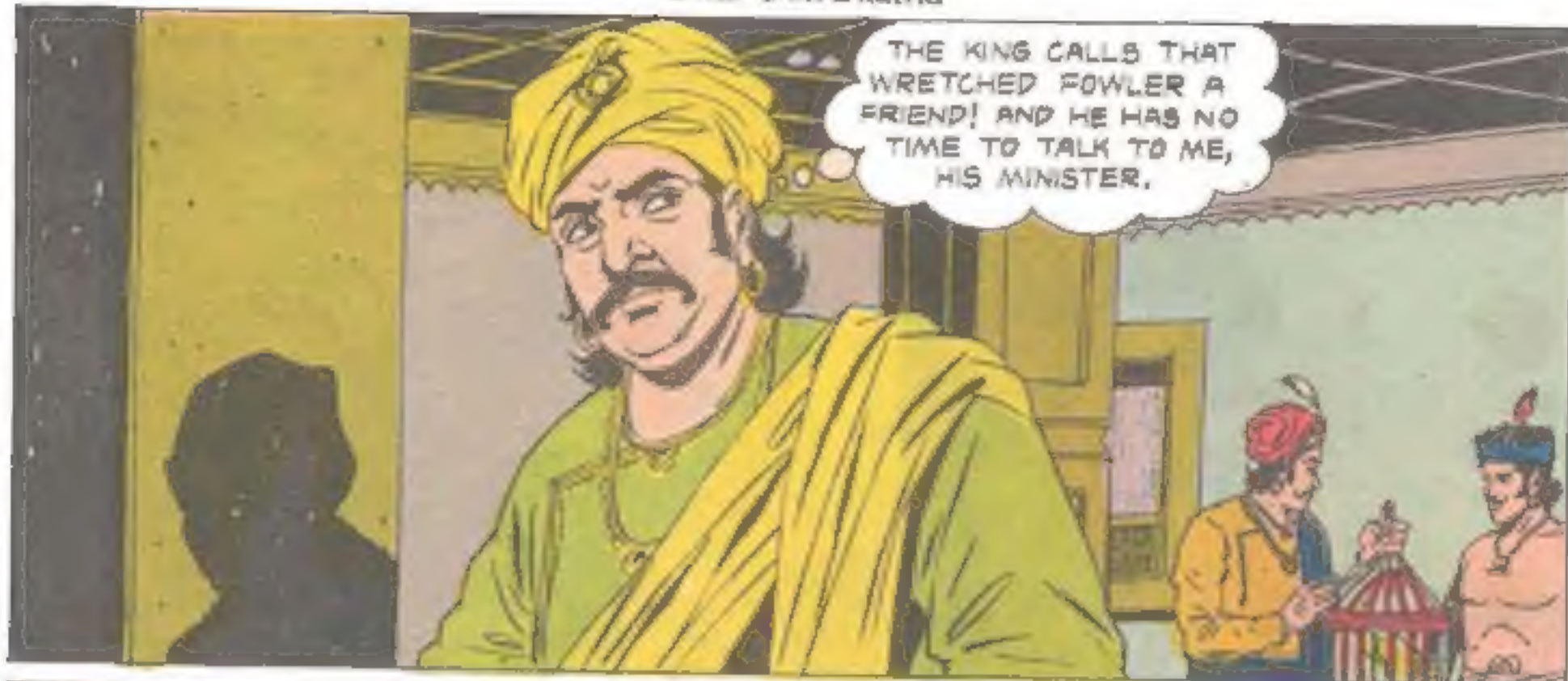
THE PARROT HAS
BEGUN TO TALK,
MAHARAJ.

MARVELLOUS!

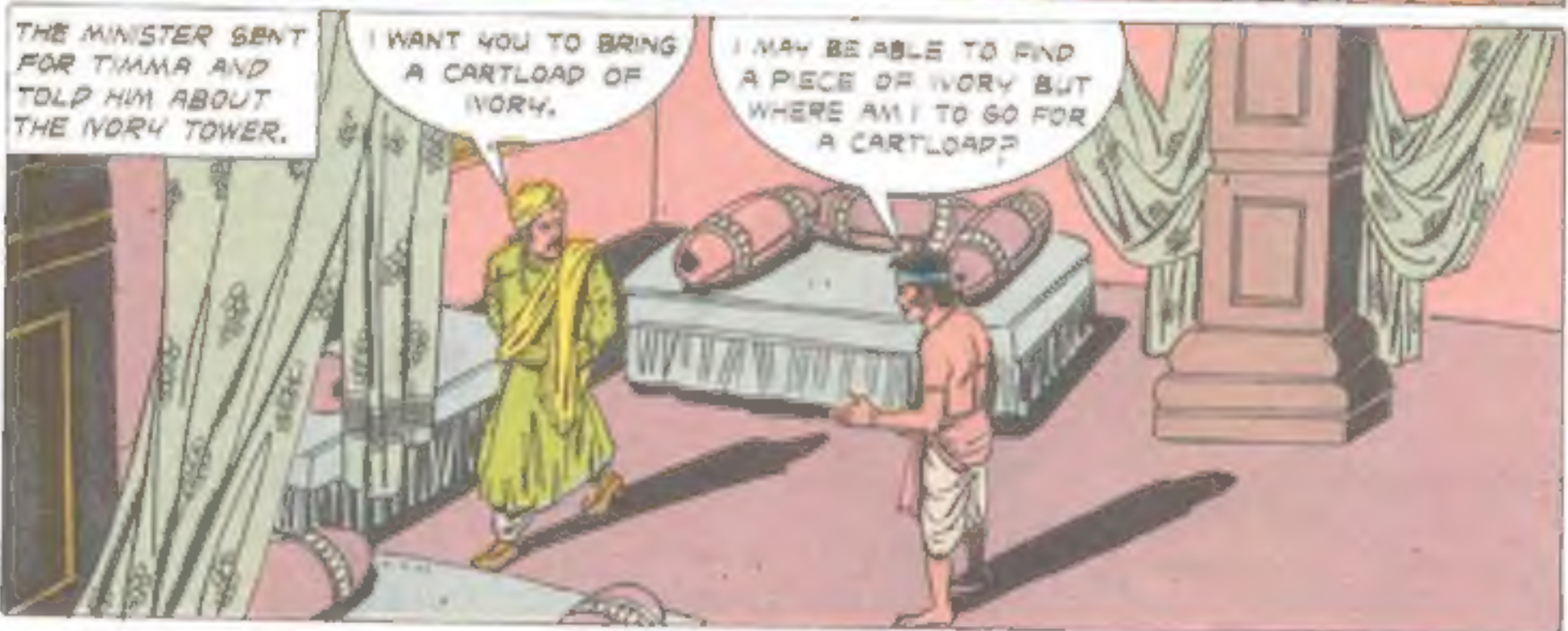
WHEN THE MINISTER WANTED TO SPEAK TO THE KING —

MAHARAJ...

NOT NOW,
PLEASE. CAN'T
YOU SEE I AM
BUSY WITH MY
FRIEND?







SO POOR TAMMA WENT TO THE FOREST IN SEARCH OF IVORY.

TO GET THE IVORY, I'LL HAVE TO CAPTURE ELEPHANTS. BUT HOW DOES ONE TRAP ELEPHANTS? I ONLY KNOW HOW TO TRAP BIRDS.

WHY ARE YOU LOOKING SO WORRIED, FRIEND?

?

YOU!

YES, YOUR OLD FRIEND. IS THERE ANYTHING I COULD DO FOR YOU?

TAMMA TOLD THE BIRD ALL ABOUT THE TOWER OF IVORY.

I WON'T BE ABLE TO FIND ALL THE IVORY THE KING WANTS AND THE KING WILL PUT ME TO DEATH.

DON'T DESPAIR, MY FRIEND.

GO EASTWARDS. YOU WILL COME ACROSS A FOREST. WALK THROUGH TILL YOU REACH A TANK. ALL THE ELEPHANTS OF THE FOREST COME THERE TO DRINK WATER.

SPEAK TO THE KING
ELEPHANT. HE WILL
HELP YOU.



TIMMA SET OUT EASTWARDS.



TOWARDS NOON HE CAME UPON THE TRAIL.
HE COULD SEE THE ELEPHANTS
FROlickING IN THE WATER

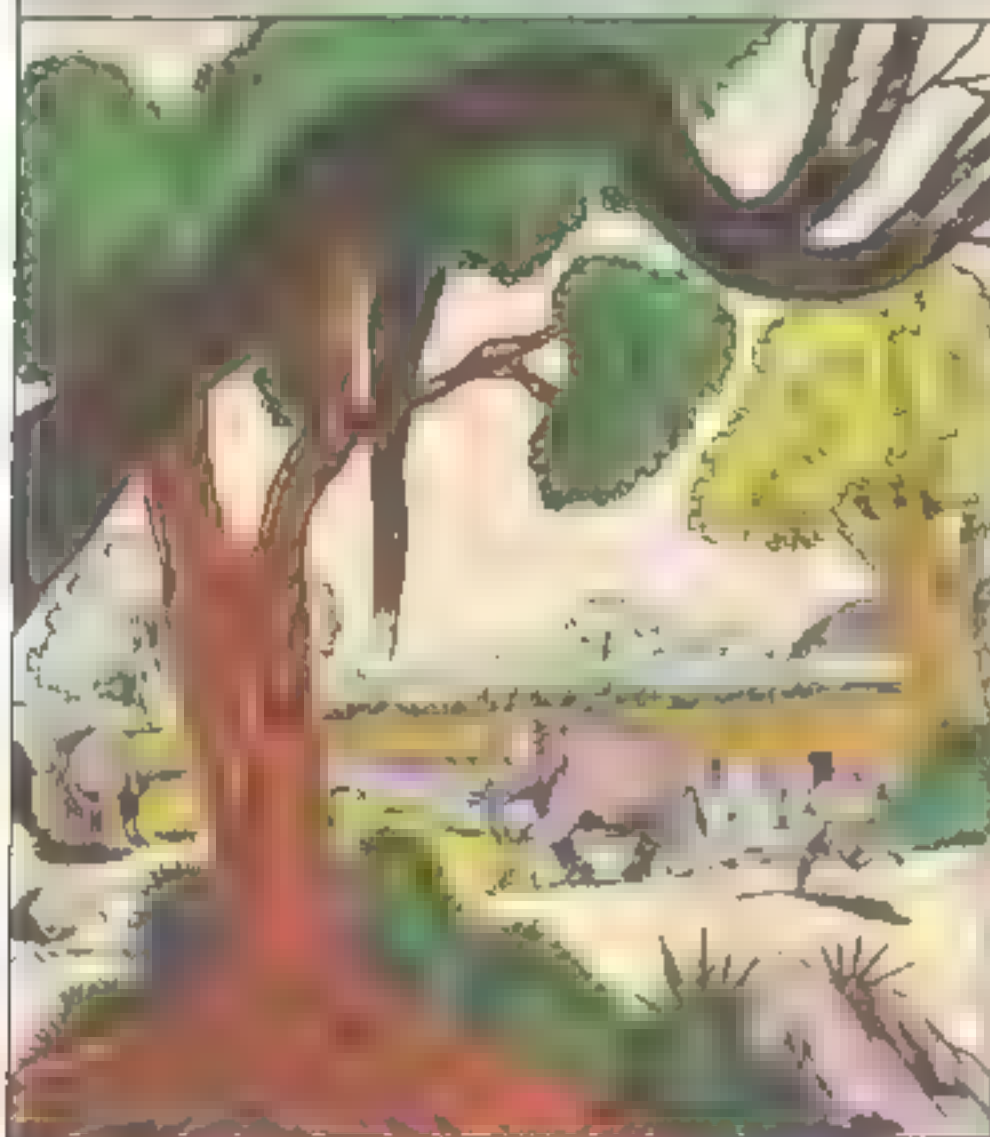


IN THE EVENING AS THE ELEPHANTS LEFT THE TRAIL —

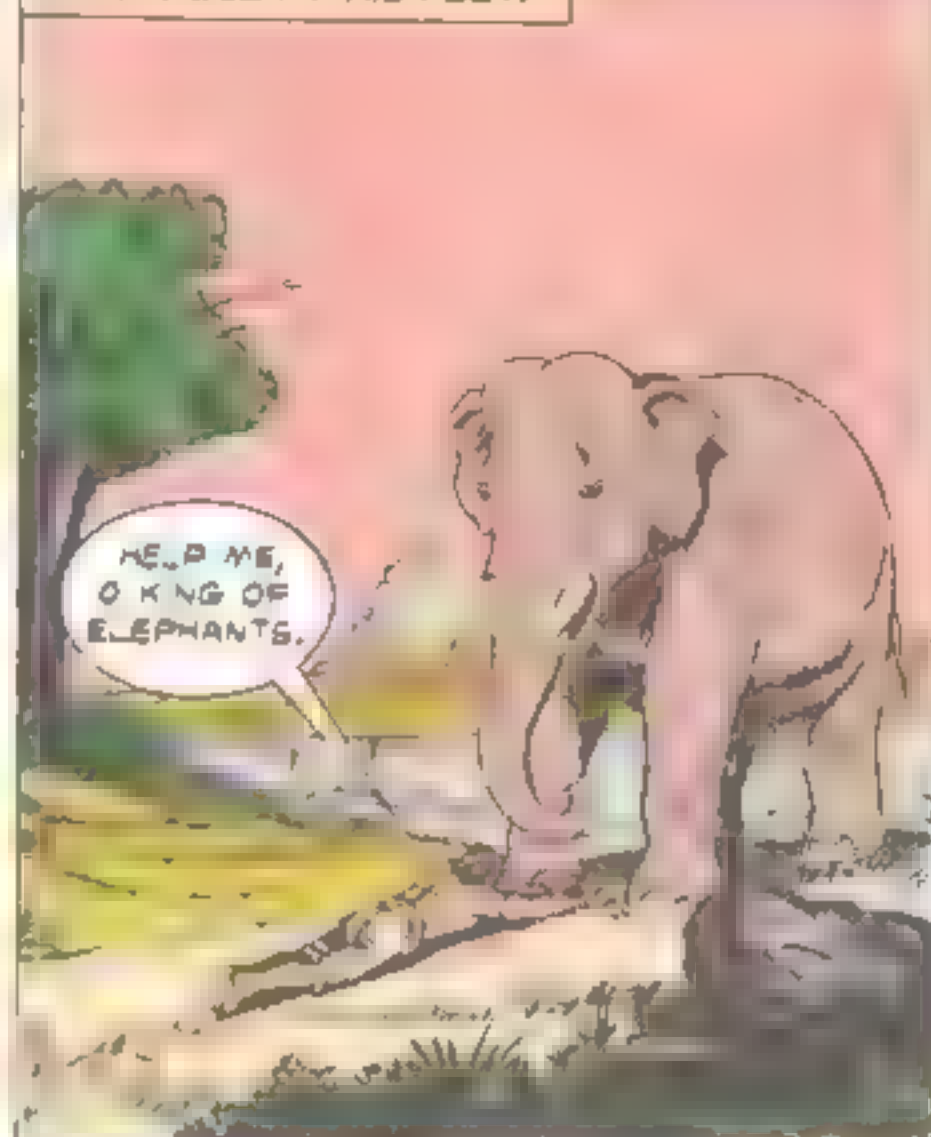
THAT OLD ONE
MUST BE THE
KING



TIMMA RAN UP TO THE OLD ELEPHANT...



...AND FELL AT HIS FEET.



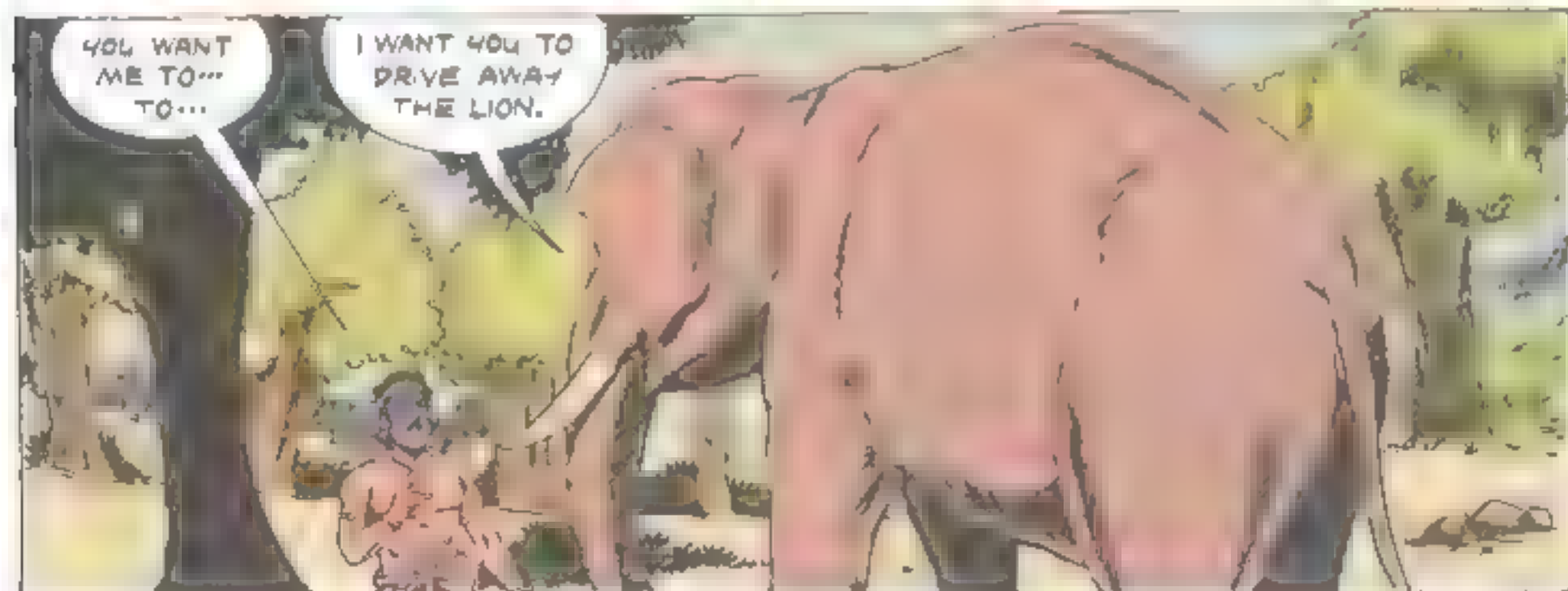
STAND UP, CHILD.
WHO ARE YOU?
WHAT DO YOU
WANT?



WHEN TIMMA TOLD HIS STORY—

I UNDERSTAND.
YOU NEED MY
HELP.







I DON'T HAVE
TO BE A BIG GAME
HUNTER TO HANDLE
THAT LION.



TIMMA QUICKLY QUENCHED HIS THIRST AND THEN SET
OUT FOR HIS CITY.



THE FOLLOWING MORNING HE WAS BACK IN THE
FOREST HE HAD BROUGHT TWO MORE HOUNDS
WITH HIM.



THIS IS THE RIGHT PLACE
TO SET THE TRAP...
A TRAP OF MIRRORS!

TIMMA PLACED THE MIRRORS OPPOSITE EACH OTHER

HAH! NOW
AM READY TO
RECEIVE THE
KING OF THE
JUNGLE.



FEELING ABSOLUTELY CONFIDENT, HE SAT DOWN AND BEGAN TO SING.

TARA
LA...LA...
-A.

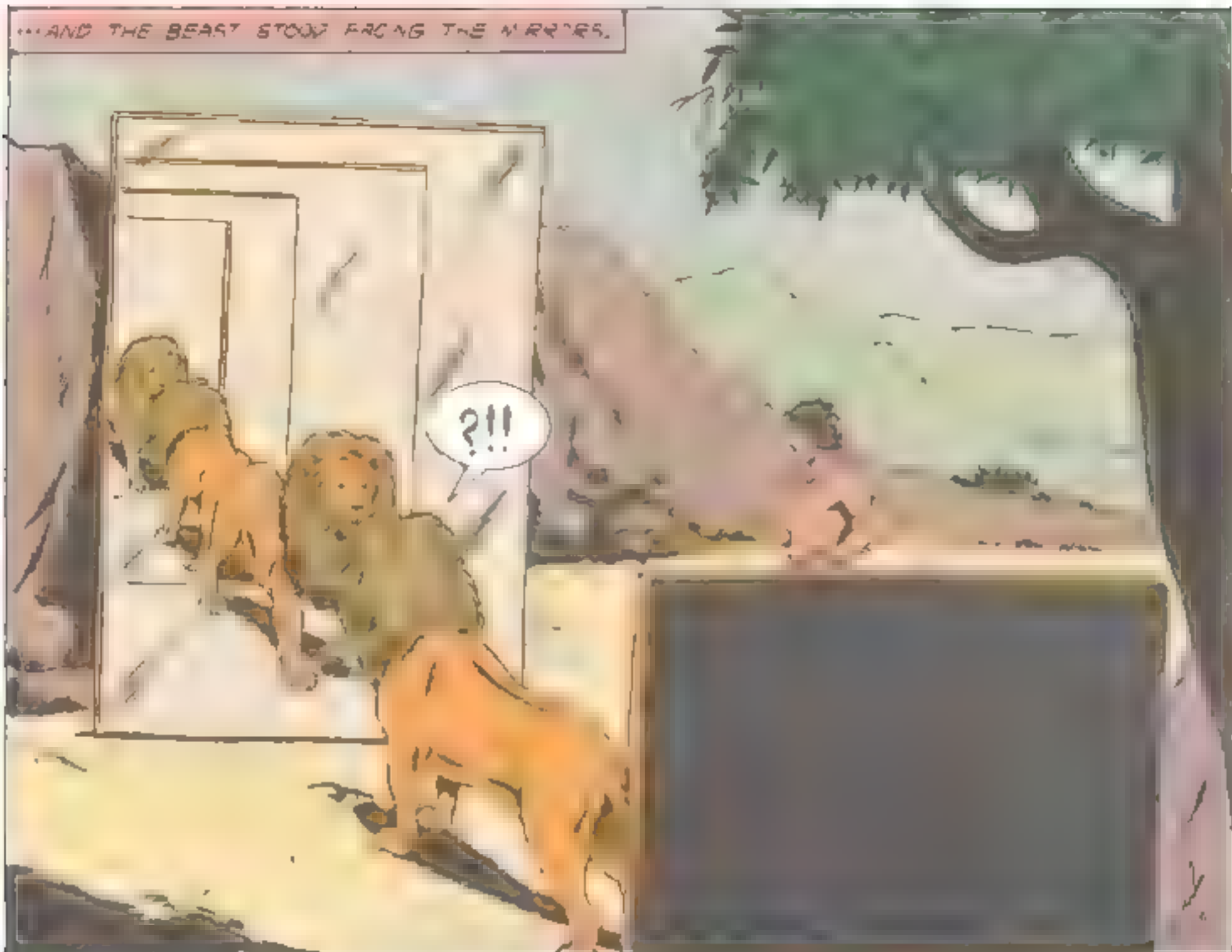
SOON HE HAD COMPOSED

YOUNG MAN, EVEN VETERAN
GAME HUNTERS RUN AWAY
WHEN THEY SEE ME.
AREN'T YOU
SCARED?

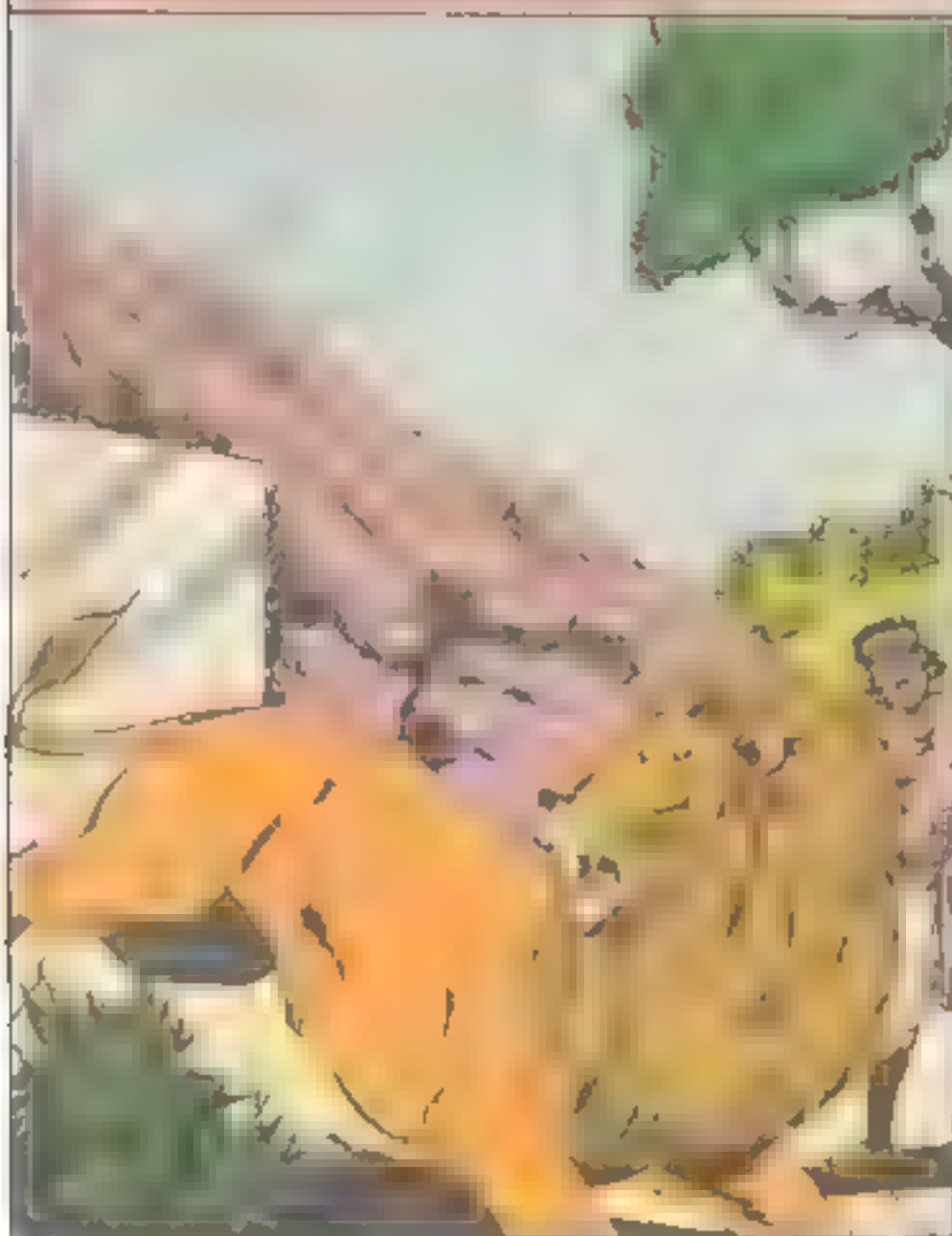
SCARED? WHO, ME? HAH!
DO YOU KNOW TO
WHOM YOU ARE
TALKING?



...AND THE BEAST STOOD FACING THE MARRIES.



WITH A MOMENT'S DELAY THE LION FLED.



LOOK! THE
LION.

RUN!



EVEN AS THE ELEPHANTS MADE WAY, THE LION SPEEDED BY...





AND PLACED IT ON THE BACK OF AN ELEPHANT



THUS TIMMA LEFT THE FOREST AT THE HEAD OF A CARAVAN OF ELEPHANTS LOADED WITH IVORY.



WHEN HE REACHED THE PALACE THE KING - MEN - CAME OUT TO RECEIVE HIM



MEANWHILE THE KING HAD A TOWER OF IVORY BUILT



THE PARROT MUST BE
MISSING ITS OLD
MASTER.

BUT HOW
ARE WE TO
TRACE ITS OLD
MASTER?

OUR TAMMA
SHOULD KNOW,
MAHARAJ.

THE MINISTERS SENT FOR TAMMA

THE KING
WANTS YOU TO
BRING THE OWNER
OF OUR PARROT
HERE.

DON'T
KNOW WHO
THE OWNER IS.
CAUGHT IN
THE FOREST

THE KING IS NOT INTERESTED
IN EXCUSES. HE WANTS
RESULTS.

BUT...

IF YOU DON'T BRING
THE OWNER HERE
WITHIN FOUR WEEKS,
YOUR HEAD WILL
BE CUT OFF.

TIMMA WENT TO HIS OLD FRIEND IN THE FOREST

THE KING HAS ORDERED ME TO FIND THE OWNER OF THE PARROT CAN YOU HELP ME?

WELL FOLLOW ME

TIMMA FOLLOWED THE BIRD.

IT LED HIM TO A TEMPLE WHERE THERE STOOD A MECHANICAL HORSE.

MOUNT THIS HORSE AND FLY WESTWARDS WHEN YOU FLY OVER THE SEA YOU WILL COME ACROSS AN ISLAND

THAT THE KING WAS LOOKING FOR

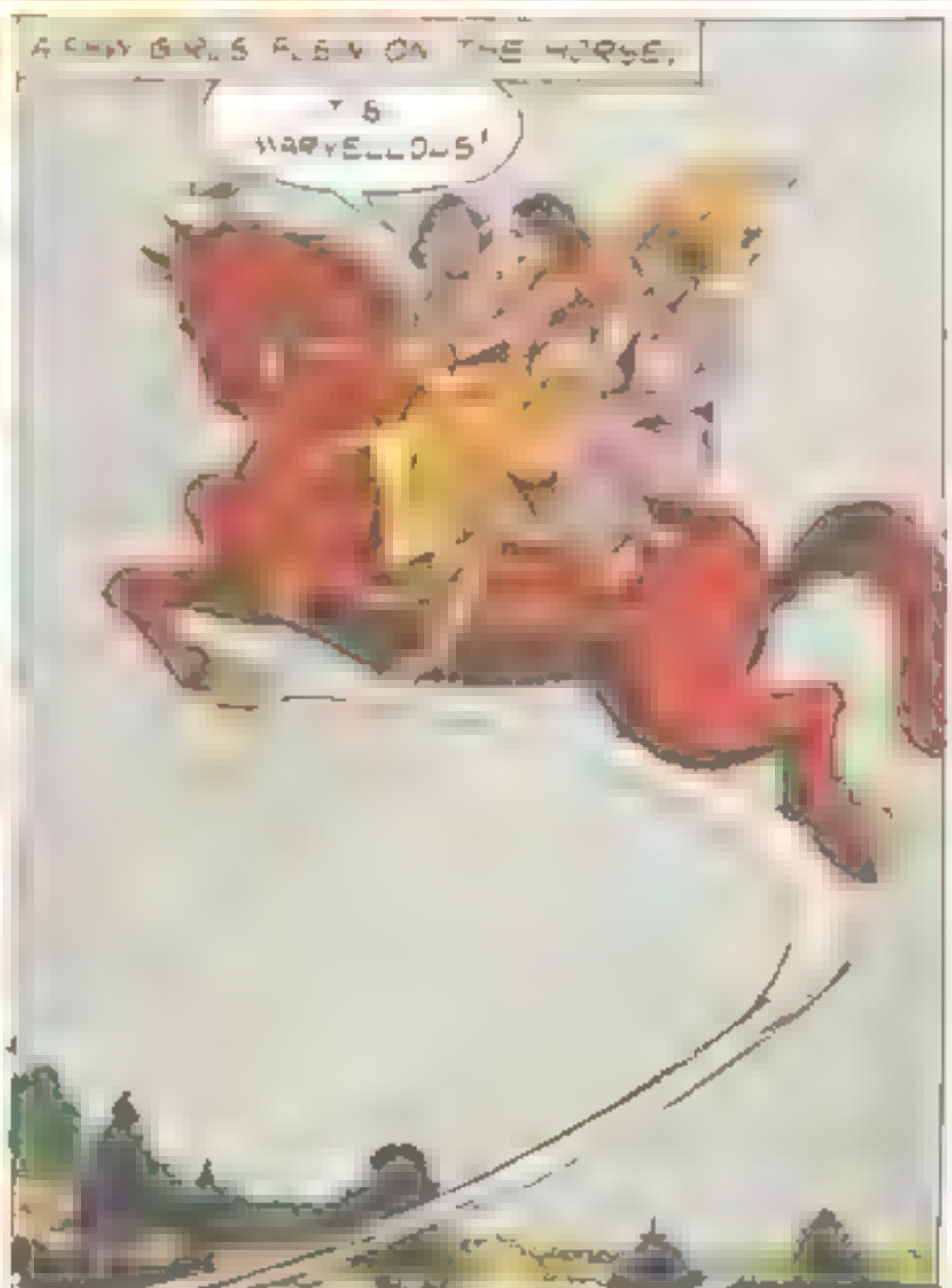
TIMMA MOUNTED THE HORSE AND TURNED THE KEY

THE NEXT MINUTE HE WAS UP IN THE AIR

GOOD LUCK, MY FRIEND.



TIMYA LANDED IN THE ROYAL GARDEN THE FRIENDS OF THE PRINCESS RAN TOWARDS HIM.



THEN CAME THE PRINCESS

I TOO
WOULD LIKE
TO FLY.

SO TAMRA TOOK OFF WITH THE PRINCESS...

AND FLEW HOMEWARDS

WHERE ARE
YOU TAKING ME,
YOUNG WARD

TO SOMEONE
YOU'D LOVE TO
MEET.

AS THEY NEARED THE TOWER OF VRY,
THE PARROT BEGAN TO SING.



THE KING HEARD THE NEWS AND CAME TO
THE TOWER.



THE KING MARRIED THE PRINCESS AND
APPOINTED MYA COMMANDER OF THE
ARMY.



A FEW WEEKS LATER, THE PRINCESS FELL ILL.
NO PHYSICIAN COULD CURE HER.

I'M SORRY, MAHARAJ.
THERE'S NOTHING
I CAN DO.

THERE MUST
BE SOMEONE WHO
CAN CURE HER.



YOU
MUST SEND FOR
A PHYSICIAN
FROM THE LAND
OF OUR QUEEN,
MAHARAJ.

AGREE,
MAHARAJ, WE
COULD SEND OUR
COMMANDER TO
THE ISLAND.



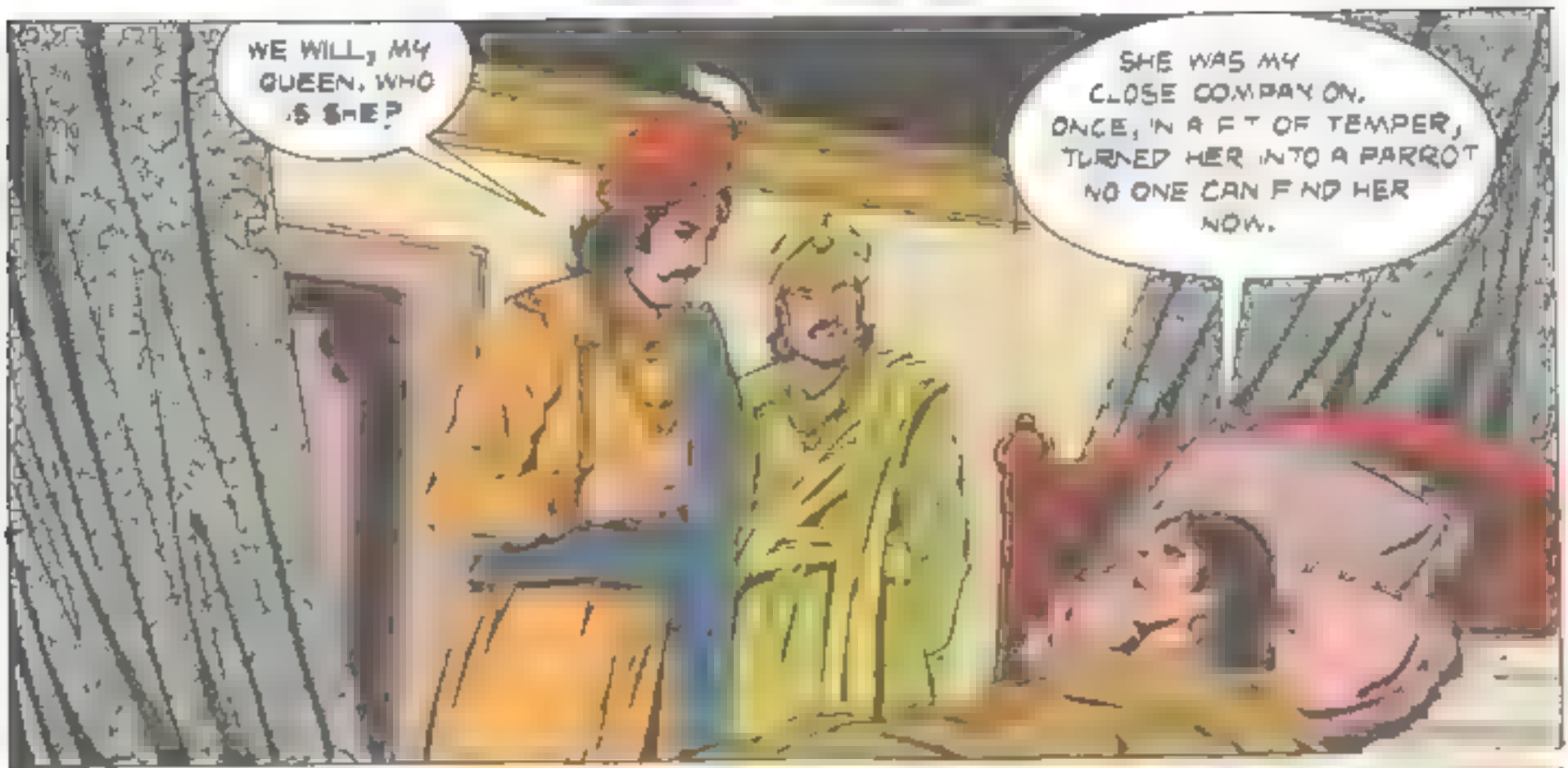
I'M SURE THE PEOPLE OF
THE ISLAND WILL BE ON THE
LOOKOUT FOR THE MAN
WHO KIDNAPPED THEIR
PRINCESS. TIMMA
WON'T RETURN
ALIVE.



THEN THE QUEEN SPOKE

THERE IS
ONLY ONE PERSON
WHO KNOWS THE
REMEDY AND YOU
WON'T BE ABLE TO
END HER.





WE WILL, MY
QUEEN. WHO
IS SHE?

SHE WAS MY
CLOSE COMPANION.
ONCE, IN A FIT OF TEMPER,
TURNED HER INTO A PARROT
NO ONE CAN FIND HER
NOW.



BUT, MAHARAJA, I AM SURE
OUR COMMANDER WILL
BE ABLE TO FIND
HER.

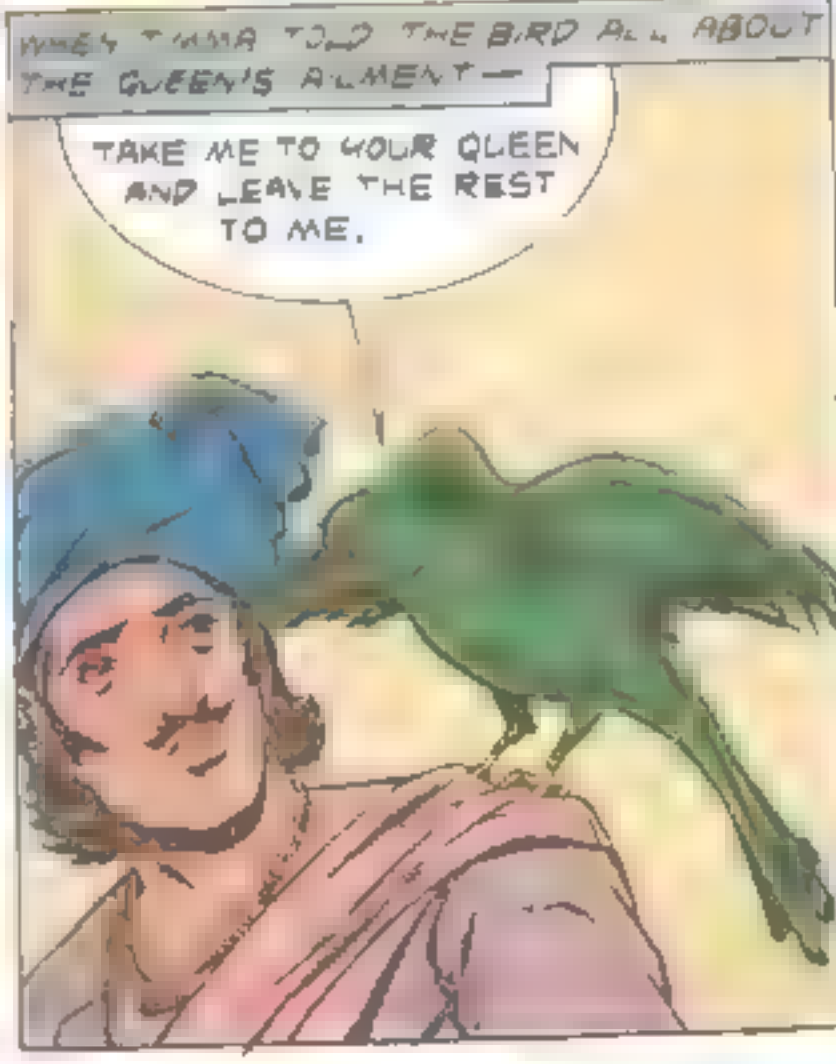
YES. CALL
HIM.



THUS TIMMA FOUND HIMSELF IN THE FOREST ONCE
AGAIN.

YOU
LOOK WORRIED,
MY FRIEND. IS
IT ANOTHER
PROBLEM?

EVEN
YOU CANNOT
HELP ME THIS
TIME



WHEN TIMMA TOLD THE BIRD ALL ABOUT
THE QUEEN'S ALIMENT—

TAKE ME TO YOUR QUEEN
AND LEAVE THE REST
TO ME.

TIMMA TOOK THE BIRD TO THE PALACE.

MY
FRIEND!



THE MOMENT THE QUEEN TOUCHED THE BIRD...



...IT TURNED INTO A BEAUTIFUL GIRL.

PARDON
ME FOR TURNING
YOU INTO A
PARROT.



THE QUEEN WAS CURED; HER LONG-LOST COMPANION
MARRIED TIMMA WHOM THE KING APPOINTED AS HIS
MINISTER, AND THE ENVOUS MINISTER LEFT THE
CITY FOR EVER





Your
bubble
of
happiness!

NO. 007 Bubble gum



THE NATIONAL PEDIATRIC

Tutti i colori della natura
 si uniscono in armonia
 Tutti i colori della natura
 si uniscono in armonia



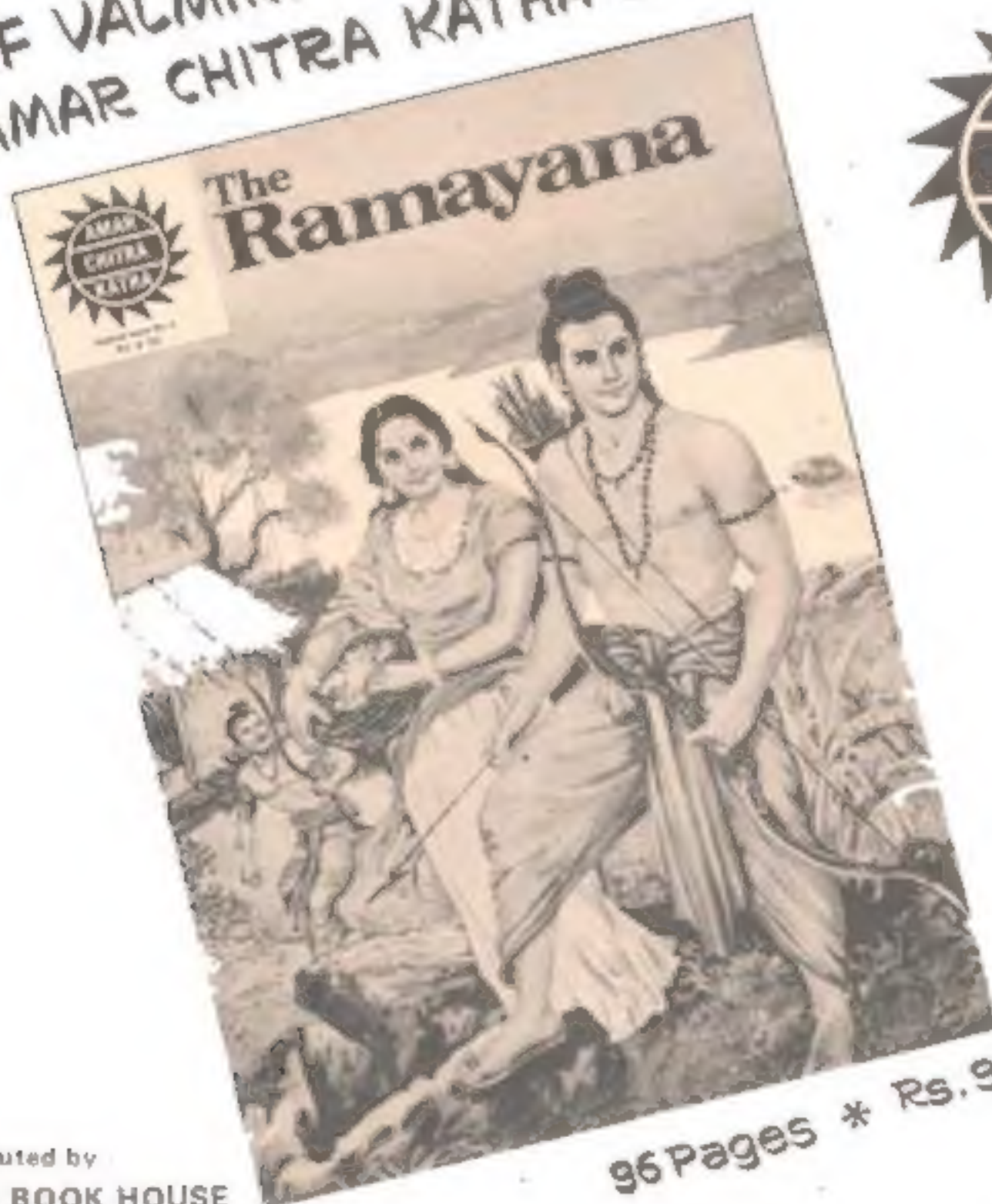
Così è minuzioso / Così è Gentile

C. M. M. M. M.

Anzitutto perché non Cabbano Genti

VALMIKI'S RAMAYANA IS BELIEVED TO BE THE FIRST POETIC WORK WRITTEN IN SANSKRIT; IT IS, THEREFORE, REFERRED TO AS THE ADIKAVYA. IT IS SAID THAT BRAHMA ASSURED VALMIKI THAT "AS LONG AS THE MOUNTAINS STAND AND THE RIVERS FLOW, SO LONG SHALL THE RAMAYANA BE READ BY MEN."

THE IMMORTAL EPIC
OF VALMIKI NOW IN THE
AMAR CHITRA KATHA SERIES



96 Pages * Rs. 9



Distributed by
INDIA BOOK HOUSE

March 15, 1982

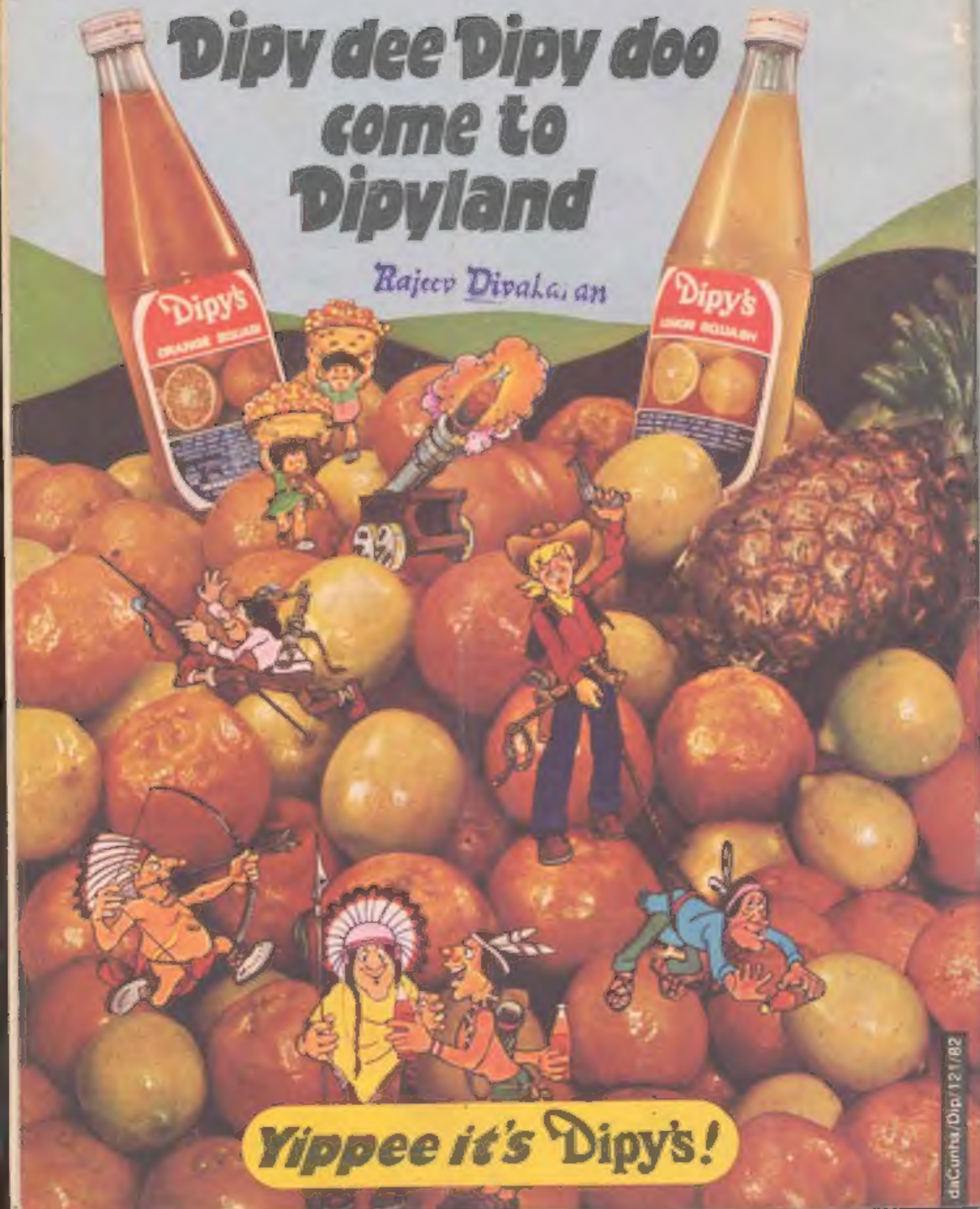
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Dipy dee Dipy doo come to Dipyland

Rajeev Divakaran



Yippee it's Dipy's!